REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 18-27 are pending in this application. Claims 1-17 canceled and claims 18-27 are newly added by way of the present amendment.

New claims 18-27 are written in a clear fashion to recite a semiconductor device including circuit elements comprising a data memory, a code memory, an ECC circuit and a test circuit. Memories and circuits are clearly structural elements. In particular, claim 18 recites an ECC circuit which supplies the data memory with the test pattern, generates a code data, and supplies the code memory with the code data. Claim 18 is not simply the description of mathematical functions but recites a circuit which generates and supplies data to other circuit elements, a concrete structure including a plurality of physical structures. Claim 18 is statutory machine.

The method of claim 23 includes generating a test pattern, outputting data and testing the data and code memories. At least the testing of the memories is a physical act. Claim 23 is a statutory process of memory testing.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 18-27 are statutory within the meaning of 35 U. S. C. §101.

Claims 18-27 are also believed to be fully compliant with 35 U. S. C. §112, first and second paragraphs.

With regard to the transpose matrix, the matrix in claims 18 and 23 is recited as a transpose matrix of the test pattern and the Hamming matrix.

It is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and an

favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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